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"OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN."

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Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURE AT THE CAPITOL.

Agriculture has been very modest in its demands of the legislature at the session now just closed. In the lower House there were a large number of farmers, more than of any other calling, and many of them were men well and widely known as representative farmers, leaders in this great and important industry, and in the community in which they live. With such men in such numbers in the councils of the State, it might well be expected that their influence would be an important factor in all matters on which it was centered. There was no effort at any time apparent to combine the farmer forces, as a class, on any matter before the law makers, yet it was plain to be seen that they were at all times and in all cases the thoughtful, deliberate and conservative element of the body, free from jobs, schemes and games, and ready to give their support to public interests in the broad and intelligent sense of the great good to the State at large. To this there were few exceptions in their ranks, and measured with other classes of their fellow workers by this standard, they lost nothing by the comparison. Whenever and wherever the farmers saw fit to concentrate their influence, their strength was sufficient to carry their point, and in numerous cases questionable schemes of designing men were easily turned down by their efforts. On the other hand, measures of great public importance were fought through the House, against strong opposition, by their united and therefore powerful labors. While there was an unprecedented demand on the treasury of the State for appropriations in aid of almost every other interest, namely, yet the call of agriculture was only for protection of law in its rights. Money in its aid was not asked for.

Of the measures enacted in the special interest of agriculture, the anti-crook oleomargarine law is of most importance. The dairy interests of the State are rapidly on the increase, and now are of sufficient importance to command every possible safeguard from the State, and any other support that may be asked for. We gave the full text of this law in our issue of two weeks ago.

The act for the protection of dairymen against defects in the Babcock test, drafted by the member from Greene, Mr. Gilbert, which also has been published in the *Farmer*, anticipates a necessity which is being realized fully by all parties who are critically studying methods of dairy work. Maine is thus the first State in the Union to place an effectual safeguard around her dairymen, in the application of this method of measuring the value of milk.

An act was passed providing for a change in the law regulating the apportionment of State stipend to agricultural societies. Hitherto it has been apportioned between societies in proportion to the sum total of premiums, prizes and gratuities paid out by such societies. Under this arrangement abuses had crept in. The trotting horse interest is always aggressive. In many cases the prizes were the principal monies paid. In this way it was believed that too much of this money paid by the State, ostensibly for the promotion of agriculture, in fact was in the interest of horse racing. This new act provides that the apportionment shall be made "in proportion to the premiums and gratuities paid on exhibition stock and products," and exclusive entirely of the trotting purses. This law will either essentially modify the work of some of these societies, or will greatly change the amount of aid received from the State.

These are all the strictly agricultural measures that came before the legislature. These all received the unanimous support of the farmers, with the exception of one matter in a single instance. There were matters of taxation before the legislature, in which the farmers are concerned in common with other classes, on which there was a division of opinion and of action. The long noted "Hating bill" was one of these. Many of the farmer members battled valiantly for this, as they have in the past. The great weakness was not in the legislation, but rather in the lack of support by the people. Heretofore, farmers and other holders of visible property have joined hands in hearty support of this movement. The Grange, too, has brought its great strength in unflinching support. Evidently the farmers and mechanics at large, as well as the Grange, had become tired of effort in this cause, and did not show up in any strength. There could be only one result.

On the contrary, the "Wiggin bill," providing for an increase of the State tax for common schools, and a proportionate decrease of municipal requirements for the same purpose, a most judicious measure, received the unanimous support of the country members. It was through their able efforts that the bill passed the House by a strong vote. Unfortunately for justice, however, the Senate refused to concur, and

the House still insisting on its former action, the bill was killed by the Senate refusing to agree.

So we are pleased to note that the position of the unusually strong farmer force in the legislature has been alike creditable to themselves, and in the line of judicious legislation for our common interests.

GOOD ROADS.

We are sorry to be obliged to record the fact that the effort in the legislature looking to the improvement of country roads failed to meet with the favor the movement deserved. The movement originated with Representative Woodside of Sabattus, who worked hard to bring it to a successful issue.

The most important feature of the bill began, where all such movements first of all must, by providing for a better expenditure of the money raised for road purposes. It abolished highway districts and surveyors, and provided for the appointment of a Road Commissioner by the Selectmen, who should have charge of the repairs of all roads of the town, in the way as managed by some of the more progressive towns at the present time. This bill made such action imperative on all towns.

The bill was bitterly opposed by Packard of Blanchard, Howe of Milo, Daggett of Smyrna, Libby of Chester, and Reynolds of Brooks; and was supported by Gilbert of Greene, Adams of Bowdoin, Hurd of North Berwick, and Wells of Wells.

The opponents of the movement claimed the roads were being improved under present management, and that the proposed change would work a hardship among the country people.

In support of the measure Mr. Gilbert said that for some years there had been abroad a loud call for an improvement in highways. It is one of the demands of the present progress of civilization. It is for this purpose that this bill is framed. Our country towns in this State are quite limited in population, and limited proportionately in wealth, yet they have about the same number of miles of roads as though they were densely populated and more wealthy. Our ability to comply with the demands of the more densely populated sections is in proportion to our property and population. All legislation must therefore take into consideration the fact that we are limited in population and wealth in the country towns. There is nothing very radical in this bill. Such change as is provided for is in the right direction—a wiser and more judicious expenditure of the money devoted to this purpose. We have tried the old system for years, and have found it wanting. This bill provides for the appointment, by the Selectmen of a town, of a Highway Commissioner, who shall have charge of that work, and for the expenditure of the money put out in carrying it on. It also leads to a better knowledge of how to do this work and how to expend this money. If there are towns that don't want improvement in this direction, most certainly they ought to be brought into line in this direction. Many towns of large population have already adopted this method of work, and in the result there shown you will find the evidence of the wisdom of this bill. The improvement in those towns has been marked. So this bill is no experiment. If we ever make any advance in the condition of our country roads it will first come through such steps as are provided for in this bill.

Mr. Adams of Bowdoin said that this was one of the most important measures that had come before the legislature. Papers all over the State, and public speakers have been calling attention to this need. This movement is a step in the right direction. I presume you are familiar with the workings of the old law. If the district is a wealthy district, they get a large amount of money to expend on their roads, while others get but little. This proposed law says that all towns shall be on a highway district, and that a highway tax shall be raised in money. I rather have seventy-five cents in money to repair our highways, than a dollar to be expended in labor.

Mr. Howe says these large, wealthy towns are able to adopt this system. Towns are not able to get along without it. It is in these poorer towns that this law would work wonderfully well. From my own experience I can say that it has worked well in these country towns, and I cannot see why it will not in all towns. It is not going to work the injustice or inequality that they anticipate. It is going to give us a less tax and a good deal better highways. I hope this bill will pass.

Mr. Hurd of North Berwick said he hoped the bill would not be voted down. In my town we tried it two years, and then the class of people that want to work out their tax objected to it and voted us down, and now we follow the old system. I pay a large tax, and am willing to do so if it can be expended judiciously, but to have it worked out and see no benefit from it I object, and I hope this measure will receive a passage.

Mr. Wells of Wells said our roads had been complained of from time immemorial, and this bill is a step in the right direction. In many towns we may be able to get a Road Commissioner one year, and then through some dissatisfaction we have to go back to the old system. It has been said that this forces certain towns to raise money for their highways. Aroostook is going to raise a very large sum for a railroad—why should they object to raise something for highways? The old system is not business like, it is not up with the times.

The bill was finally indefinitely postponed. Thus ended the efforts at highway improvement of the sixty-fourth legislature. But we shall do better some time. The public demand is for better roads.

IS THE BABCOCK TEST RELIABLE?

In commenting on our disclosure of the unreliability and irregularity of some of the tools that go with the Babcock test, *Hoar's Dairyman* has the following:

"The same is true of the churn in a still greater degree. There is no machine in dairy use in which there is so much variation of result as the churn. Indeed to correct the faults of the churn we have to use the Babcock test. Experienced men know that it is easier to manipulate the Babcock test correctly than the churn. Every great fraud in the testing of cows, putting up a false result by dishonest manipulation has been accomplished with the churn. Black peeps, and other kindred frauds, whereby a lot of so-called butter can be made and heralded abroad as a great test, had to depend on the churn. To say that men may be crooked with any machine is to say what every child knows, but it has no bearing upon the relative accuracy of the two methods of butter fat separation."

That does not settle the matter, *Brother Hoar*. Any irregularity in the work of measuring the value of milk by the Babcock test is too serious a matter to down to so simple a bidding as that given. You know, and so does every reading and thinking dairymen, that there is no comparison between the uses of the churn and the Babcock test. The one measures the quantity of available butter in a churning of cream, while the other tests the value of a few centimeters of cream for the purpose of therefrom calculating the value of, possibly, a month's supply. An error of a small fraction in that measurement or in its reading may mean many dollars to the maker of the cream. This repeated week after week or month after month, means something worth taking note of. True, men may be crooked in the handling of all measurements.

But it is the incorrectness and therefore the unreliability of the measurements that go with this method that we are first after. These being corrected and guarded, then will we have a basis to work from in the further protection of the milk and cream makers. This can never be done by charging the churn with defects. What we want, *Brother Hoar*, is measuring glasses, accurately adjusted, and bottles correctly calibrated, to go with the Babcock method of test. Is our Wisconsin co-laborer quite sure that all "false results" have "been accomplished with the churn"? We have before us at this time the highest authorities in this country to the effect that there are discrepancies in the work of the Babcock test and its tools are found in the hands of the most skillful operators. Instead, then, of diverting attention by making light of so important a matter, let us pull together to protect this method in its perfection. The makers of the milk must have their doors securely guarded.

AN OLEO FRAUD SHOWN UP.

Statements have often been given out to the public in the interest of the oleo manufacture of cases where expert judges of butter were unable to distinguish between the genuine article and that of oleomargarine. A case in point has recently been going the rounds of the papers. At the last annual meeting of the Pennsylvania State Dairymen's Association, held at Meadville, Feb. 6 to 8, a committee composed of Hon. J. C. McIntock, Meadville, a prominent breeder of Jersey cattle and the manufacturer of the butter from Pennsylvania, securing the highest average score for the season at the World's Columbian Exposition; A. L. Wales, Corry, a prominent and experienced creameryman, and H. J. Waters, State College, Professor of Agriculture in the Pennsylvania State College, were appointed to judge the butter on exhibition and award prizes according to the rules of the association.

After the committee had made its report, the packages removed by the exhibitors and the association had adjourned, Mr. A. J. Palm, editor of the *Meadville Messenger*, who had entered butter in the five and one-pound classes in the name of a local dairyman, to which had been awarded second and third prizes respectively, reported to the daily press, the Associated and United Press Associations that his entries were bogus, and that the samples entered were butter procured from Chicago for this purpose.

So far the imposition had the best of it and might have been passed current on the public, had not the committee been too sharp for the impostor. On learning of this public statement, Prof.

Waters of the committee immediately took measures to secure a sample of the alleged oleomargarine exhibit, and subjecting it to chemical analysis found it to be genuine butter.

Thus it proves the committee were not deceived, and the natural conclusion is that Mr. Palm either wilfully and knowingly made a misstatement of the facts to influence pending legislation restricting the sale of artificial butter in Pennsylvania, or was the victim of deception and fraud by the parties in Chicago from whom the packages were secured for exhibition.

Such are the schemes resorted to by the oleo manufacturers to get and keep their goods before the public. The whole business is born in fraud, and can only be sustained through the same infamous methods.

MAKING NEW TYPES.

A correspondent asks "how are new varieties and new colors in fruit and vegetables produced and fixed?"

This is a simple question to answer on paper, but to secure the desired results a vast amount of patient industry will be required. Selection is the means employed, and this must be constant and careful in the production of a new variety, or the perpetuation of an old one. The first step taken to secure a new variety is by cross fertilization; but new types are the results of hybridization. When this has been effected the future progeny will partake of the characters of the parents; as regards size, habit, character of fruit, and color of flowers. In the latter there will be every combination of color that the selfs are capable of producing. If the flowers of the species were crimson and white, the hybrids will possess these, only strangely blended, sometimes blotched or striped, wholly or in part. It is not an uncommon occurrence to see different self-colored flowers on the same branch, that is, pure white or clear crimson. But under no circumstances can any color be obtained by hybridization or cross-fertilization, that is, not be found in the parents.

Should there be in the species, besides the two positive colors, crimson and white, a slight trace or marking of either purple, blue, or yellow, the cross will probably set it free. In other words, while it would never change in intensity in the species, in the hybrids there will be various degrees of intensity shown, and, by careful, systematic selection for a long period of years, this faint marking may be developed into a self.

A bed of seedlings from any systematic cross will, in all likelihood, show as many varieties as there are plants; no two will be exactly alike in color, form, or marking. Should one or more of these forms be considered worthy of perpetuation, the seeds from these must be saved and planted far away from any others, and from these a selection must be made annually until the desired type has been secured and the character firmly established. The better plan is to grow from a single seed, and from the progeny of this discard everything not true to the desired type.

There is a great difference in species as regards permanency of color in the progeny. In some it is far more variable and transient than others. In fact, there are but few hybrids that can be kept true to type, and perpetuated by seed. In most cases the varieties are perpetuated by cuttings, and are then regarded as florists' flowers.

The gladiolus shows this in a marked degree. The seeds from any named variety will never reproduce it; sometimes the seedlings will approximate the parent, but only rarely. A peculiarity of this tribe is that the yellow, which color is most predominant in the species, is more likely to reproduce itself by seed than any of the others. At the same time, reproduction of bulblets is more rapid than with most others.

The majority of the commoner vegetables or flowers which have been long under cultivation show great inclinations to vary from seed, and it is only by constant "roguing" out of deteriorated individuals and saving the better forms for stock that a high standard is maintained. Occasionally a slightly different form of growth will be noticed in a lot of young plants, and by saving from that plant and continuing on the lines laid down, we can often secure a new form. A case in point is the bush lima bean referred to in our last issue. The variability of seedlings from the one seed pod is in some groups of plants so extreme that it is quite useless to expect to propagate in this way, and the more highly cultivation is carried on the greater is the manifestation of this tendency; as an instance take the chrysanthemum.

Sometimes a new form shows itself by a bud variation or "sport," as in weeping varieties of ordinary trees, and these are perpetuated by grafting onto the ordinary form. Another strange effect is then sometimes produced and a graft hybrid results from the influence of the stock on the scion.—*American Gardening*.

BETTER TIMES FOR SHEEP GROWERS.

One of those who do not believe that the American sheep industry will go to ruin on account of free wool is Prof. Thos. Shaw of Minnesota, who recently

spoke as follows at a sheep breeder's meeting:

"It is my conviction that even in the face of free wool we can still grow sheep at a profit, if we grow the right kind. Yes, the right kind. That is a large question. I cannot enter upon it now. Better days are at hand. Amid the gloom of the present we can see the gleam of that brighter, better morning. Is it not folly, therefore, to decimate and disband our flocks? Is it not a huge mistake? So strongly do I feel on this question, that if my voice could reach every flockmaster in the land, I would say to him, don't commit this folly. Men, like sheep, are good imitators; when a leader of a flock goes the others go, and because some flockmasters have disbanded their flocks, others are doing the same. Can none be found to rush along the lines between the living and the dead sheep, to stay the uplifted hand which is ready to destroy whole flocks of breeding sheep which this country cannot afford to do without? The day is near at hand when we would be glad to resurrect those breeding sheep, which, for the past two years, we have been sacrificing in millions at the shrine of ill timed apprehension."

AGRICULTURE AT THE BASE—CULTURE REQUIRED OF ITS VOTARIES.

Mr. W. S. Hanna, in behalf of the Governor of Kansas, welcomed the members of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture at its 23d annual meeting, in the following words:

"As true agriculture is the basis of all wealth and prosperity of our State and nation, and of the world, and as what tends to elevate the one also elevates all the others, we welcome you as leading representative agriculturists, whose hearts should truly sympathize with every effort to elevate and ennoble the leading industry. As true knowledge is the source of all excellence, the true epitome of power, so do we humble tillers of the soil feel the need of the highest possible culture in our calling. We recognize the possibilities of improvement and elevation to be derived from the meetings of this board; that accompanying the perfected papers, followed by the most intelligent and exhaustive discussion, all replete and abounding in advanced ideas on topics so directly connected with our life work that it becomes a higher school of advanced thought, which should permeate and revolutionize all parts of the State."

Communications.

FARMERS' AND DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

BY W. W. HUBBARD.

The most noted feature in the agricultural world over here was the annual meeting of the Farmers' and Dairymen's Association at Fredericton in the early part of this month. It was one of the most successful meetings in point of attendance and interest ever held by the association.

Every county in the Province was well represented, the total number of delegates reaching one hundred and fifty; and men with a large attendance and visitors made up a large gathering.

Professor Jos. W. Robertson, Dominion Dairy Commissioner, gave a very interesting address before a large audience in the City Hall on "The Nation's Bread and Butter," treating on the effect of food on the characteristics of the race, and outlining some ways in which the true economy of living could be better attained. By a series of charts the nutritive value and energy producing power of various articles of food were shown and contrasted. As a practical illustration of contrast he cited the oat meal fed Scotchmen and the typical rice-eating Chinese.

Professor F. T. Shutt, Chief Chemist to the Experimental Farm System of Canada, gave an address on the essential elements of plant food. He showed what plants require for their growth, how different varieties fed in different ways, discussed the great value to the farmer of the leguminous plants that could take nitrogen from the air, and laid special emphasis on the proper care of farm-yard manure. Artificial fertilizers received some attention, and altogether the address was one of the most practical ever delivered before the association.

In a second address, Prof. Shutt spoke on "The Principles of Cattle Feeding." The answering of questions in the question box kept both professors busy for some time. The benefit of drainage and the best methods of laying drains was discussed by Colonel Blair, Manager of the Experimental Farm at Nappan, N. S., and a variety of other subjects outlined in the programme published in the *Farmer*, came up for consideration.

Professor Robertson, just before leaving the meeting, announced that in response to many requests the dairy school would again be opened at Sussex in April, that tuition would be free to all who attended, and that as the school could not be located near all the dairy centres, his department would undertake to defray one-half of the traveling expenses of students taking the course.

The Hon. Jas. Mitchell, Commissioner for Agriculture of the Province, in the course of his remarks announced that the Provincial government would bear the other half of the traveling expenses of students who would take the Sussex course, and went on to pledge his department to the utmost endeavors on behalf of dairy work.

A Dairymen's Board of Trade for the Province is to be formed this spring,

composed of representatives from each cheese factory and creamery in the Province with the Secretary for Agriculture at Fredericton, as its Secretary. Through this organization the salesman of each factory will have authoritative weekly quotations of the market prices and be in communication with the trade at any and all times.

No further announcements in regard to the government programme for the encouragement of dairying have yet been made. No doubt there will be an instructor in cheese making visiting the factories as in previous years, and probably some more itinerant instruction in butter making.

The Provincial Farmers' and Dairymen's Association is laying plans for a few summer meetings, but as it has not the expenditure of any funds it cannot hope to undertake very much work.

We had last year thirty-three cheese factories and seven creameries in operation; this year, there will be an increase of over one dozen. The extent and the increase of cooperation afford a fair index to the awakening that is gradually spreading among our farmers. Still I regret to say there are as yet very few men who are making an earnest study of their farm business. The average returns per acre of cultivated lands are yet very low and lots of mental stimulant is yet needed. Those men who think that the governments have about accomplished their mission in agricultural education must, to say the least, be taking a very superficial view.

Word comes to-day from the Experimental Farm at Ottawa, that the feeding tests to determine the value of the Robertson mixture of ensilage for making beef, have turned out most favorable to the mixture, some 5 or 6 pounds of grain per day being saved as against other rations used.

Oromocto, N. B., March 20.

For the Maine Farmer.

THE DIVERSITY OF MINDS.

BY F. M. HOWARD.

I did not know as it was admissible to give expression to this momentous question that has been agitating the minds of the people for so long, (especially the ladies). I certainly have had no lofty ambition in regard to the subject. Possibly no great trouble would accrue in casting votes if they would bear dictating by their husbands. I think life is too short to be spent in trying to change God's plans. My experience has been the more educated a woman is, and the greater her opportunities, the more selfish and narrow minded she becomes. It would be unjust to judge the world by a few. It might do for some grand and noble women to enter the arena of politics. I will admit that there are men who seem to forget they were created in the image of God, and are powerless to do otherwise than drift idly along through life. They seem ready for anything that will bring in a few paltry dollars without working, such as selling their vote, and in so doing taking leave of all that goes to make up true manhood.

There is a grand work to be done in politics, but I think woman will find plenty to occupy her mind in the church and at home. The purifying process must go on in youth. It is natural for some trees to grow tall and straight, while others are dwarfed and irregular. And thus it is in the lives of most men and women there is an influence brought to bear in their youth that follows a close companion in after days. What harmony there would be in this world, taken in the mass, if the people were of one idea, but being born in the free land of America they can give expression to their thoughts, provided they are in the bounds of reason and limits of the law. I do not wish to be misunderstood, nor have any one infer that I undervalue education, or pass lightly over the capabilities of women, but the affairs of the nation have been governed without the aid of women, and it really seems as if it would be far more creditable to imitate the example of Jane Welsh Carlyle, and prepare food that will keep our husbands from having dyspepsia. If strong minded men sent to Congress can have their minds acted upon by a powerful agency, what would be the result if women were in power? This subject needs a good deal of thought, and women will have plenty of time to become well instructed in the rules of parliament. It probably will be very useful in teaching the rising generation, while it is a good occupation for the mind, and makes them more congenial partners.

The people are quite equally divided; infallibility is not written upon any brow. A high standard of religion must be maintained or the morals of a community will become corrupt. Why are the churches being closed? Is every one doing the duty nearest home? Why is it clamoring over the woman suffrage question—do they want more laws, or their way? Ah! what a chaotic mass—like the woman that had all her wishes granted, yet prayed for the sun, moon and stars.

If they would only be satisfied to ballot for good candidates and then return home, perhaps that might do, but I very much fear hopes might be entertained

of their some day being initiated into the mysteries of Odd Fellowship and the Masons. The people among the New England hills are the happiest class in the world. "Festus says too much knowledge hath made thee mad," well, we do not acquire enough to do that, for we have to work so hard we have but little time to devote to reading; but when we can spare a few moments we thank God, and seize with avidity some loved volume and become oblivious to everything else. We are sort of archaeologists that keep right on in our fossorial life. This subject opens up new avenues of thought but the spirit of the times admonishes me to brie, for a little spark may sometimes kindle a large fire.

For the Maine Farmer.

FROSTS IN THE TOP OF BARNS.

BY D. DYER.

The cause is one of God's laws, or rather of nature's laws. Had it been otherwise, this earth would be one barren, rocky waste, like the deserts of central Asia, Africa, Australia and North America, as seen on our maps in childhood days. (Many Western States would object to that map, but they have the desert all the same.) There would not be one drop of rain to refresh or cool the parched earth; not a spring, brooklet, stream or pond above sea level. Warm air demands more moisture than cold air can hold, and will have it. It makes us thirst, parches our lips, shrinks lumber, dries all moist places, draws immense quantities of water from the great tropical oceans, and is carried by the winds to the north and south. When that hot, moist air from the tropics reaches our hills and cold climate, the wind becomes cold, loses its power to hold the water it formerly held. It then forms into clouds, which empty themselves to feed our springs and brooks. You will see the same on a smaller scale by setting a pitcher of cold water in a warm room. When the warm air strikes the cold pitcher, it gives up the moisture, is condensed, and settles on the outside. The air in your warm room deposits its moisture on the cold, icy windows. Your driving horse will be frosty, likewise will your cattle in a cold barn.

If the weather is a little milder, you will notice the frost on the walls. More warmth will drive the frost farther away. Oftentimes the top of the hay mow and scaffold will be white with the same. When the inside of your barn is at or above freezing point, the frost will be deposited on the roof in cold weather. The only remedy is to let the cold air in at the top of the building, to rob the warm air of its moisture before it reaches the roof of the barn. I like to see the frost there, for the reason that I know my stock has a comfortable place below. If a man has stock in his tie-up, he must have frost somewhere between their noses and the roof, in cold weather. The more stock the building contains, the more frost is seen. Any substance situated between thawing and freezing temperatures will be covered with frost. Nature demands it, and it is well.

Winterport.

Reported for the Maine Farmer.

IN AROOSTOOK.

BY L. CUSHMAN.

The Aroostook and Penobscot Union Pomona Grange met with Houlton Grange, March 27th. By invitation, the North Aroostook Pomona came down in full force, and every Grange but one in the county was represented. The commodious Grange Hall was not sufficient to accommodate so large a meeting, and Music Hall was engaged for the occasion. The time was largely taken up in social and fraternal greetings. Bro. Crawford, the Lecturer of Houlton Grange, in well chosen words, welcomed us to their beautiful village, and the generous hospitality for which grangers are so justly noted. Bro. B. R. Walker, Master of the Pomona, extended a cordial welcome to the North Pomona, which called forth hearty and cheering responses from every Grange represented by that Pomona. Excellent selections were read by Bro. Geo. W. Drake, Bro. W. Weston, Sister Ruth and Sister Auber. A very instructive and interesting paper, on "How can we best carry out the objects and aims of the Grange?" was presented by Bro. Ira G. Porter.

At the evening session, an able Grange paper was read by Mrs. Geo. Moore, which was well received. A vote of thanks was tendered the officers of the B. & A. R. R. for the liberal excursion rates secured. Upon the arrival of the trains, Grange teams were in readiness to convey all members of the order to the hall, where we found a sumptuous feast prepared, of which fully two hundred patrons partook. At the close of the evening session, a vote of thanks was tendered the members of the North Pomona for their presence and their cheering words. Also a vote of thanks to the Houlton Grange for its generous hospitality.

The next meeting will be held with Golden Sheaf Grange, Sherman, May 8th. Sherman Mills.

—Skowhegan Jersey creamery has increased its capacity for manufacturing butter. The company is making 4300 pounds of butter per week.

Woman's Department.

COMFORTS AND PLEASURES OF FARM LIFE.

Having had the Farmer for years in our family, and always taking much interest in it, especially in the woman's column, have read this winter, with great interest, the many articles relating to the "shut in, isolated, barren life" of the farmer's wife. Having lived on a farm all my life (a little more than forty years), I cannot understand why they, as a class, should be represented by such writers as leading lives so destitute of all comforts and enjoyments. It may be the exception, but I do contend that it is not the rule; but farmers' wives have as many pleasures and comforts as women of other classes. I do not think there is any average farmer who desires to deny his wife the privilege of receiving and visiting her friends, nor the pleasure of a horse to ride when she wishes. Neither do I think that any good-hearted, common-sense farmer wishes his wife to do the so-called drudgery on the farm.

As a girl in my father's farm home, much of my life was spent at school till I was twenty years of age. From then till the time of my marriage, three or four years later, I spent the time chiefly at home, enjoying all the pleasures and privileges which any daughter and sister can enjoy. Both before and since my marriage I have been round quite a good deal, both in the country and city, and have observed many different phases of life, but have failed to see anything which has ever induced me to wish to exchange life in the country, or a farm, for that of living in the city, or anywhere else. Will admit that people in cities have the advantages of more good lectures, grand concerts, and the like, but still think we have many opportunities which they have not.

While my family may not be as large as some of my sister farmers', still we do quite a farm business. Have quite a dairy; have hired help the greater part of the year on the farm. Still I find no trouble whatever in finding ample time for reading, music (as I have a good piano), fancy work, the family sewing, making calls and visits, receiving friends (we entertain quite a lot of company), attending Grange meetings, and going to drive whenever I please. In house cleaning and haying time, whenever I need help, I hire some woman to help me. And why shouldn't every woman do this, as well as her husband out doors?

And now, sisters and friends, let me say there is no greater pleasure nor keener enjoyment in anything nor anywhere, where your housework is done, than to harness a good driving horse and go to ride; and every woman on a farm certainly ought to know how to harness and drive a horse. It is not only the means of much pleasure, but oftentimes very convenient. And what can be more pleasant, especially in the summer time, than a good drive in the fresh, open air, with the reins in your own hands, to the post office, into town, to some friend's, anywhere you please to go? And the woman on the farm who does not do this, either from lack of time, want of courage in handling a horse, or any other reason, is losing a vast amount of enjoyment out of her life; and the man who isn't willing she should, has no right to have a wife.

AUST. TABBY.

THE GREATEST THING FOR WOMEN.

Dr. Parkhurst Tells Women What He Thinks It Is.

The greatest thing a woman can do is to do the thing that she was specifically endowed and ordained to do, and that is to bear children and train them for the uses and service of the world they are born into, and only such women as are morally or intellectually incompetent to appreciate the full denotement of this, or who have greater ambition for aggressiveness or conspicuousness than they are not content to be known only in their children, and that is one great reason why their children are so little known. If Jobebad had had her head full of theories about an enlarged sphere for women, and had gone about Egypt stumping for female enfranchisement, the little hero of the bulrushes would probably have shared the fate of the other male children of the period, and the law-giver of Israel would never have been heard of.

EASTER EGGS.

The use of eggs on Easter Day, sometimes called Pasche, or paste eggs, has come down to the present time, writes Jane Seales in an article on "Easter and Easter Customs," in the April Ladies' Home Journal. Eggs were held by the Egyptians as a sacred emblem of this renovation of mankind after the Deluge. The Jews adopted them to suit the circumstances of their history as a type of their departure from the land of Egypt.

They were also used in the feast of the Passover. Hyde, in his description of Oriental sports, tells of one with eggs among the Christians of Mesopotamia on Easter Day, and forty days afterwards: "The sports consist in striking their eggs one against another, and the egg that first breaks is won by the owner of the one that struck it. Immediately another egg is pitted against the winning egg, and so on till the last egg wins all the others, which their respective owners shall have for won."

In Germany, sometimes instead of eggs at Easter, an emblematical print is occasionally presented. One of these is preserved in the print room of the British Museum. Three hens are represented as upholding a basket in which

are placed three eggs ornamented with representations illustrative of the Resurrection: over the centre egg the "Agnus Dei," with a chalice representing faith; the other eggs bearing the emblems of charity and hope.

THE BEDROOM COUCH.

An Indispensable Piece of Furniture That Need Not Be Expensive.

Every bedroom should if possible contain a couch, if it be only of wicker, and especially is one indispensable in the room of a guest who frequently longs for a short nap, but refrains from taking one in the fear of disturbing a beautifully made or elaborately decorated bed.

Guest room furnishings, by the way, should not be so fine as to be overpowering. I heard of a lady once who, when on a visit to some friends, was put into a room, the furniture of which was upholstered in white satin. She afterward confessed that she used to sit on the floor when in retirement there, as, being in mourning, she felt sure her black gowns would leave a trace on the delicate covering. There may have been some exaggeration in her amusing account of her trials, but it is certainly visiting under difficulties when none of the freedom of home can be enjoyed.

If the room be small and there is no place for a couch it could be set at the foot of the bed, where, if supplied with casters, it may easily be moved when convenient.

One suitable for use in a bedroom may be got up with little trouble, and it is astonishing what treasures the attic will often afford.

I have a sofa in mind which was so unsightly as to be absolutely useless. It was one of the old-fashioned sort, with a carved back; but by any means an article of great beauty and design, but a thoroughly plebeian, uncomfortable piece of furniture.

The back was unscrewed and taken off, the soiled cover removed, and at a cost of \$3 new springs and a fresh cover of white cotton made it ready for a pretty spread and pillows, which transformed it completely.

The spread is of French satine, in blue and white, to match the hangings of the room, and it was made by sewing a deep frill gathered on a cord to a piece of the goods of a suitable size to cover the sofa. This particular frill, by the way, is composed of many small pieces joined together, and as it is quite full the gathers hide the seams very effectively.

The spread should be made of ample length, so that it may be pushed down into the place where the head of the couch joins the lower part, this device serving to keep it in place, and no other fastening being necessary. When finished, the couch may be set against the wall, and two large pillows, covered with the same material as the spread, arranged for the back, in which case it is only necessary to have the frill across the front and at bottom and top; or it may sit out in the room, when smaller pillows may be used, but these must be harmonious with the main covering.

An adjustable cover of this sort has many advantages over one which is nailed to the frame and tufted. It is less trouble to make, and of course less expensive, as the work may be done in the house, and it may be taken off and shaken or washed, as occasion requires. Tufted chairs and sofas are handsome, but they afford deep and lasting lurking places for the dust, and are always a trial on that account to the fastidious housekeeper.

An old couch like the one described here may be refashioned into a library or sitting room chair, or even into a handsome dark shade, like deep old red, or terra cotta, is used for the covering. This need only be hemmed all around, and if gracefully arranged will look extremely well. If liked, the heavier goods can be caught up at the corners and a rosette of the material fastened at the point of draping. Indeed, a little ingenuity and thought, combined with taste, will secure charming effects in house decoration with often very little expenditure of money, and the satisfaction which a woman feels in the work of her own hands and brain far exceeds her pride in any adornment of her home that is purely the result of the upholsterer's art.—Harper's Bazar.

FIRESIDE FRAGMENTS.

—Graham Mash.—Stew apples, either green or dried, until soft enough to be mashed fine with a spoon, sweeten, and water to make plenty of juice, and thicken with graham flour as for plain mush. Serve with cream.—Orange Judd Farmer.

—Whipped Cream for Chocolate.—Pure sweet cream, not too thick, is required, and it will whip much easier if very cold. Therefore a pan of cracked ice under the bowl is recommended. Put the cream into a deep bowl, add a few drops of vanilla and whip to a fine, stiff froth with a Dover egg beater.—Boston Budget.

—Starch Poultice.—Thoroughly dissolve the starch in a small quantity of cold water, and add to boiling water and cook until a paste is formed. Apply either hot or cold. In the latter case the poultice should be changed, or moistened with cold water every twelve hours. This poultice possesses all the requisite virtues, lightness, smoothness and the power of retaining heat.—Good Housekeeping.

—Invisible Ink.—Dissolve in one fluid ounce of distilled water fifty grains of chloride of cobalt, and after the crystals have dissolved, add ten minims of glycerine. Shake this until it is thoroughly mixed. Write upon ordinary paper with this ink, then give it to some one who sits or stands near the stove. As the paper becomes warm the writing will turn blue, but will fade again when exposed to cold or dampness.—N. Y. Ledger.

—Celery with Tomato Sauce.—Cut the white part of five heads of celery into small pieces. Cook until tender in boiling water, turn into a colander and drain. For three cups of stewed celery prepare a sauce with a pint of strained tomato, heated to boiling, and thickened with a tablespoonful of flour rubbed smooth in a little cold water. Turn over the celery, and serve hot. If desired, a half cup of thin cream may be added to the tomato sauce.—Good Health.

—Soup Creve.—Take three good-sized carrots, scrape and cut into small dice. Cook in boiling salted water two hours. Press through a strainer, put in double boiler three cups of milk, one tablespoonful of chopped onion, one-half tablespoonful of celery salt, one of salt, one-half teaspoonful of white pepper, boil five minutes, then pour over the grated carrot. Put all through a fine sieve and return to the double boiler. Blend smoothly a tablespoonful

50c. BARGAINS.

IN ROSES AND PLANTS.

We want your trade, hence we offer these choice bargains well known that once a customer of ours, always a customer. Please tell your neighbors about it.

Set A—10 Ever-blooming Roses, 10 Colors. 100 Cents.
Set B—10 Ever-blooming Roses, 10 Colors. 100 Cents.
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Set F—10 Ever-blooming Roses, 10 Colors. 100 Cents.
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Set H—10 Ever-blooming Roses, 10 Colors. 100 Cents.
Set I—10 Ever-blooming Roses, 10 Colors. 100 Cents.
Set J—10 Ever-blooming Roses, 10 Colors. 100 Cents.

By mail postpaid, after arrival and satisfaction guaranteed. Order to the letter from this advertisement now as these introductory sets are in limited quantities. This look certain to be a success for the garden and home. We mail it for in stamps. No return of cash or goods.

THE GOOD & REESE CO.

Champion City Greenhouses.

Box 40, NEWTON, MASS.

Please mention this paper.

17

ful of flour with a little cold water,

add to soup, and stir until it thickens.

Serve with croissants.—Christian Inquirer.

A Snow.—In the bottom of a

well-sweetened apple sauce, then a

very scant layer of fine, dry bread

crumbs or cracker crumbs and a few

tiny lumps of jelly. Over this spread

a generous layer of whipped cream,

sweetened to taste, then another layer

of apple sauce, one of bread crumbs

and jelly, and another of whipped

cream; and so on until the dish is suffi-

ciently full, having the whipped cream

on top, over which place a few tiny

lumps of the bright jelly, and one has

a delightful dessert, easily prepared,

and as attractive to the eye as it is to

the palate.—Farm and Home.

OLD-TIME QUILTING.

A Lost Art Being Revived—Some Charm-

ing Spacious Possibilities.

Real old-time quilting, quilting done

by hand and showing beauty as well

as precision, has been revived. In

common with much other fine tedious

work it dropped into disuse when the

sewing machine invaded every home,

but it has returned, and with even more

than its original charm.

The very latest spreads for infants

are of soft, light-colored, elaborately

quilted, and are very attractive indeed.

A fine specimen is of robin's egg blue,

lined with creamy white. It is tufted

with red and white, and is warm, while it

is neither clumsy nor heavy. But the

quilting is the distinctive feature, and

that is done as perfectly as quilting

can be. The pattern is quite as elaborate

as any designed for braiding

would be, and the work is very fine.

Instead of being covered, however, it is

traced with the finest possible stitch-

ing, all put in by hand. In itself it

completely contradicts the theory that

the art of needle work is dying out. Not

even relics of our great grandmothers

time can show any finer work, and few

can boast so handsome and elaborate

patterns as these. Whether one believes or

does not that the sewing machine is the

time expended and the strain upon the

eyes, she is forced to admit that the

spread is exquisite and dainty.

The stitches are marvelous, for each

one is of exactly the length of the last

and even the machine could do no more

regular work. To a woman born and

bred in the last two decades the spread

seems a wonder of patience as well as

skill. Investigated into the realms of

the long ago and a little searching

among the treasures of our great-

grandmothers' time may reveal simi-

lar things, but to modern eyes it is

marvelous nevertheless.

To be sure a revival of fine handwork

has been on the cards for some time

past, and it is and has been quite cor-

rect to allow such stitching to be done

anywhere near the sensitive skin. Not-

withstanding this fact, however, the

elaborate quilting is new to the pres-

ent generation, and a more genuine

novelty than such a revival is difficult

to find.—N. Y. World.

TRIED AND TRUE COOKERY RECIPES.

NEWARK Pudding. One pint of milk,

one cup of sugar, three eggs, one cupful

of bread crumbs, one tablespoonful of

butter, and the juice of a lemon. Boil

the milk, add the bread crumbs and butter,

and when cool add the beaten yolks of

eggs and half the sugar and the grated

lemon rind; then turn into a pudding

Young Folks' Column.

BOYCOTTED.

"Bo-y-co-t-t-e-d," what does that mean, mamma?" asked Edie, one day.

Mamma looked at her a moment, before she answered.

"Edie, is that loose tooth pulled?" she asked.

"No, mam," faltered Edie, "it's awful solid yet; honest it is, mamma."

"And another waiting for a chance to grow. You must have that one pulled out, Edie. I think I—yes, I'll boycott you until that tooth is out. You cannot kiss me again until you do."

Edie began to cry.

"Really, Jane, you are cruel," said grandma.

"When I was Edie's age!" began mamma, smilingly, and grandma wisely said no more, for she knew that little teeth must be pulled.

"But not to kiss her—Jane, you shouldn't punish her so," persisted grandma. "Such a sensitive, loving child, too."

"Come down cellar with me, Edie," whispered papa.

The room was smoky, for she wiped her eyes more than once.

Soon she heard a sound as if some one was crying and laughing at once. Then Edie rushed into the room, with her hands tightly over something very small and white.

"There it is, mamma; papa and I pulled it out. It hurt a little, but it was better than a boycott. Won't you kiss me now, mamma?"

And Edie knew which one was the most pleased that the boycott had ended.

ELLA H. STRATTON.

TOM'S ADVENTURE WITH THE GOLBINS.

Tom was a bad boy. He disobeyed his

father, and did not do anything that

he ought to do. His father threatened

to leave him out in the woods some

night, but that had little effect on his

behavior. One night his father carried

out his threat, and his father took him

by the collar and led him out to the heart

of the forest and threw him down on the

ground, and returned home. Tom lay

motionless on the ground some time,

and then got up and looked around him.

There was nothing to see but the trees,

which the dim light of the moon made

look like giant sentinels. Suddenly he

heard a queer noise behind him, and

turned around to see who it was. He

saw a party of golbins, who cried out:

"Come here, you disobedient boy!" As

he did not stir a step, they took hold of

him and dragged him into a deep pit,

and there left him alone to think about

it, under guard of two of their largest

companions. When it came to be day-

light they took him back to the place

where they had first found him, giving

him a severe beating for his disobedience.

The shaking made Tom wake up with a

start, to find that it was broad daylight,

and his father standing over him. Tom

told his father about the strange dream

he had had, and then went home with

him, and told him he never disobeyed

after that. Don't you think he was well

punished for being disobedient?

ARTHUR H. WESTON.

Hammon, N. J.

Dear Boys and Girls: Cousin Peggie

Rhue has been watching the letters in

the Farmer for a long time, and now I

must have a word to say. I suppose you

boys are all hoping that I will be on your

side instead of against you. You are mis-

taken, for I cannot; but my letter is for

R. A. Grover. I think he has been a

very naughty boy to speak of the dear

girls as he has, also that I think the day

will come when he will be sorry for it.

I have heard it rumored that the dear

Maine girls were going to him in a band,

and make him apologize on bended knees

for the great fuss that he alone started.

We also intend to pay Leo a visit, and C.

A. T., who ever he may be, had better

be ready to receive visitors. One girl

in our crowd is to have a snap shot

camera, and about the time Grover

reads, imagine if you can, how he will

look when he is surrounded by big, little,

tall, short, pretty, and ugly girls. I

cannot say as that will apply only to

boys' girls from all over Maine. Now,

girls, you must hurry around and have

a plain but pretty traveling dress made,

and if you are very busy perhaps some

of the smart boys will be your sewers.

If any of you feel afraid and timid (but

I don't think it would be possible for a

girl to feel that way), Cousin Peggie will

take the front, and if she gives Grover

one look from behind her glasses with

her one cross eye, he will apologize to us

all without a murmur. Come now, Gro-

ver, be getting your little speech ready

before we get there, for we girls don't

wait for little boys to stand on one foot

all day. The dressy boys, too, must be

across the street and beg of some girl to

help you prepare it. I would advise you

to practice some before a full length

mirror so you won't be too awfully awk-

ward before us.

COUSIN PEGGIE RHUE.

South Bridgton.

Dear Boys and Girls: I am a boy ten

years old, and have a brother who will

be six years old in June. My father

owns a farm in West Fryeburg, but we

live in the village because father has to

be in Augusta about all the time, so he

wrote the Mohawk Chief. I will send

the train to Augusta. For pets I have twenty

two hens and a rooster; my hens are lay-

ing finely, as I got ten eggs day before

Maine Farmer.

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 AUGUSTA, MAINE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1895.

TERMS.
 \$1.50 IN ADVANCE; OR \$2.00 IF NOT PAID
 WITHIN ONE YEAR OF DATE OF
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TERMS OF ADVERTISING.
 For one inch space, \$2.50 for three inser-
 tions and seventy-two cents for each subse-
 quent insertion.

COLLECTORS' NOTICES.

MR. C. S. AYER is now calling upon our sub-
 scribers in Lincoln county.

MR. J. W. KELLOGG is now calling upon our
 subscribers in New Brunswick and Nova
 Scotia.

MR. T. J. CARLE will call upon our sub-
 scribers in York county during April.

And now Bowdoin is talking of a sum-
 mer school.

A clergyman has recently settled near
 Purgatory, in Litchfield. A red-hot
 place in which to begin operations.

"You are vipers, and your crime is sec-
 ond only to murder," was the incisive
 language used by Judge Grosscup of
 Chicago in sentencing the vendors of cor-
 rupt literature.

The ram Katahdin developed remark-
 able speed on a contractor's trial, near
 Bath, Wednesday, running repeatedly
 over a measured mile at the rate of 17.82
 knots per hour. She will win a nice
 premium for her builders, the Bath Iron
 Works Company.

Yesterday, in Boston, was to occur the
 grand testimonial in honor of Dr. Samuel
 F. Smith, the author of "My Country,
 'Tis of Thee." The most elaborate prepa-
 rations have been made for the interest-
 ing event, of which we shall give an ac-
 count next week.

Attention is called to the candid state-
 ment made in a communication on the
 fifth page from the Walter A. Wood Co.
 There has been a disposition in some
 quarters to mix them up with another
 company that has been pressed by its
 creditors. Fair-minded men will read
 and ponder.

Secretary of the Board of Agriculture
 McKen has issued a warning against
 Western Creamery speculators, and says
 that farmers in sections where cream-
 eries are needed should cooperate with
 each other in the matter. Erect their
 own building, and purchase their sup-
 plies only of local firms, whose respon-
 sibilities are well known.

The cost of land one hundred years
 ago was not very great, judging from an
 advertisement published in the *Salem*
Gazette then, for 150 acres, situated
 about one hundred miles from Boston,
 in the State of Maine, and including a
 dwelling house, and large barn, was
 offered for \$1500. The spot, if easterly,
 would be near Portland.

Mr. J. Warren Smith of Boston, Direc-
 tor of the New England Weather Service,
 is acting in conjunction with the depar-
 tment at Washington to greatly extend
 the service of the weather and crop
 bulletins. The value of these bulletins
 is unquestionably great, and those who
 desire to help in the undertaking should
 communicate with Mr. Smith.

A correspondent of the *Farmington*
Chronicle asks this momentous question,
 which we will submit to the ministerial
 circle for consideration:

Is it any wonder the church is in such
 a low state, when some of the leaders
 and members and the superintendent of
 the Sabbath school will work tapping trees
 on Sunday? Such things are a very bad
 example indeed.

Rev. A. B. Earle, D. D., the noted union
 evangelist, died Saturday at his home in
 Newton, Mass. He had been ill six
 months. Death resulted from the effects
 of a stroke of paralysis last fall. During
 his illness he was unable to lie in bed,
 but sat and slept in a chair. His age
 was 80 years. He had been a preacher
 of great power and influence, and had
 labored in the capacity of an evangelist
 in all the leading cities of New England.
 He was a pure and sincere man com-
 manding the respect of all.

With commendable enterprise, charac-
 teristic of the managers, the first premium
 list for 1895 comes from the good old
 Sagadahoc Society. Sec'y Rogers and
 the others have done well in pushing
 this matter through, and sending out
 the very complete list so early. The
 dates this year are to be Oct. 8, 9 and 10,
 and the *Farmer's* best wishes go and
 with sunny skies Sagadahoc Fair is the most
 complete of any held in Maine, especially
 in perfected farm and garden products.

After the "winter of our discontent,"
 the time of cheerfulness and hope, it
 comes. It is interesting to note that
 trade is looking up a little. The open-
 ing of spring is rapidly allaying the
 fears which accompany a hard, dull
 winter, and the people are gaining con-
 fidence, and looking eagerly forward to
 that blissful period "When summer
 comes again." Let all of us rise above the
 mists and fogs of doubt, and work
 earnestly to establish that confidence
 without which business cannot prosper
 and which the inspiring breezes and
 sunshine of spring give new life and
 hope to us all.

The Manufacturers' Record of Balti-
 more publishes a compilation by John
 Jarrett, Secretary of the Tin Plate Man-
 ufacturers' Association of the United
 States, showing the growth of tin plate
 making in this country. The report
 shows that there are now in this country
 thirty-four tin plate works, whose capac-
 ity will exceed an annual production of
 260,000 tons of finished product, and
 furnish employment to 12,000 hands.
 Mr. Jarrett adds: "When we remember
 that less than four years ago no tin plates
 were made in this country, the marvel-
 ous growth of the industry is certainly
 phenomenal. No other manufacturing
 industry, so far as I have been able to
 discover, has ever made such progress
 in the same period of time."

THE RECORD.

The Maine legislature that adjourned
 last week was an industrious and hard-
 working body of men. The Senate was
 made up of gentlemen of legislative expe-
 rience, but two-thirds of the House
 had no legislative experience, and it
 took weeks of training before this branch
 was able to settle down to solid work.
 An unusually large number of acts and
 resolutions were passed—493 acts and 134
 resolutions. In an extra sheet, folded in
 this week's *Farmer*, we give our readers
 the acts that were passed of a public na-
 ture. Let us glance at them briefly.

The legislation of the winter affecting
 agriculture and our agricultural inter-
 ests, forms the subject of an article on
 the first page. Our readers have un-
 doubtedly noticed, from our weekly re-
 ports, that the appropriations have been
 large—sometimes extravagant, especially
 in the case of the military appropriation
 of \$33,000, that went through almost be-
 fore the legislators had got their grip-
 sacks unpacked, or their eyes fairly
 opened. The amount required for the
 new insane hospital buildings at Bangor
 (\$150,000) seemed to be a foregone con-
 clusion. And then large amounts were
 required for rebuilding State property
 burned at Gorham, for providing needed
 accommodations for the scholars of the
 Farmington Normal School, and \$25,000
 for the fish and game business. The
 appropriations for 1895 amount to
 \$1,758,406.59; for 1896, \$1,624,107.53.

The organization of corporations or-
 ganized under the general law will be-
 come null and void within three years
 unless made use of by such corporations.
 Among the commissions to be ap-
 pointed by the Governor is that for se-
 curing uniformity of legislation with
 other States in respect to divorce, in-
 solvency and probate laws, also those re-
 lating to descent and distribution of
 property, etc. Among the health laws
 will be recalled those defining cerebrospinal
 meningitis, croup, measles,
 whooping cough and consumption as
 contagious diseases in the meaning of
 the law. Vessels of five tons measure-
 ment, or less, on inland waters are now
 exempt from fees for inspection or
 license.

The State has allowed savings banks
 to require 90 days' notice for the with-
 drawal of deposits, and in turn has
 provided that these banks shall not in-
 vest in street railways, exempting those
 already built in Maine, unless there is
 paid in on the stock 33 1/3 per cent.
 of the amount of bonds.

A stringent law has been passed with
 a view to making it unpleasant for any
 officer to enter into collusion with tramps
 that want to get arrested. A heavy
 penalty is provided in case any officer
 induces a person to put himself in a po-
 sition where this officer may arrest him
 and collect the fees therefor.

Stringent laws concerning fish and
 game have been enacted. The Governor
 is to appoint three commissioners, one
 of whom is to be the Land Agent, that
 shall hear all cases. Wardens shall give
 bonds to the amount of \$2000. The
 guide of a party that violates the fish
 and game laws shall be held equally re-
 sponsible with other members of the
 party. The hunting or taking of cow or
 calf moose in any manner is forbidden.
 Open time on partridges has been fixed
 between September 20 and December 1.
 All fishing through the ice for trout or
 landlocked salmon in any of the waters
 of Franklin and Oxford counties is pro-
 hibited. No person shall now kill more
 than one bull moose, one caribou and
 two deer between October 1 and January
 1 of each year. The game law has been
 amended so as to prohibit the use of
 jack lights, snares or traps, as well as
 dogs, in hunting deer, caribou and moose.
 The number of pounds of trout or salmon
 that may now be taken is 25, and not 50,
 as heretofore. It is unlawful to take
 lobsters at any time of the year under
 10 1/2 inches in length. Hereafter new
 vessels are to be valued for taxation pur-
 poses at \$20 per gross ton, and the valua-
 tion is to be reduced \$1 per ton for every
 year of its age until 17 years old, after
 which the valuation shall be \$3 per ton.

The Insurance Commissioner may,
 with the consent of the court, wind up
 the affairs of fraternal beneficiary and
 assessment corporations. Investigations
 must now be had as to the causes of all
 fires by municipal officers within six
 days after such fires, and a copy of the
 Clerk's record shall be transmitted to the
 Insurance Commissioner semi-annually.
 The Insurance Commissioner may ap-
 point brokers, who, if unable to place
 certain kinds of insurance in any com-
 panies authorized to do business in the
 State, may insure the same in companies
 not authorized to do business in Maine.
 In cities and large towns inspectors of
 buildings are to be appointed.

Steam railroads may now use electric-
 ity. The Railroad Commissioners will
 pass upon the question whether public
 convenience requires the construction of
 an electric railroad. The county of
 Washington is empowered to aid in the
 construction of the Washington county
 railroad to an amount not exceeding
 \$500,000, the preferred stock to receive
 5 per cent. dividends. The charter has
 been extended four years. A narrow
 gauge system from Wiscasset through
 Waterville and into Franklin county has
 been projected.

A lien to secure payment of tax upon
 real estate shall take precedence of all
 other claims. If such tax remains unpaid
 on the first Monday of December of the
 year succeeding that in which said tax
 was assessed, the property shall be sold.
 The State Assessors are to make lists of
 lands in unincorporated places, with
 many divisions as will secure equitable
 taxation, conforming as nearly as con-
 venient to known divisions and separate
 ownership, and report the same to each
 successive legislature.

The law relating to mortgages has been
 amended, with the provision that the
 mortgage shall be recorded in the place
 where the mortgagor resides when the
 mortgage is given. A law has been
 passed providing that an undischarged
 mortgage, after the mortgagor has been
 in uninterrupted possession for 20 years
 after the time limited in the mortgage,
 shall not affect the title.

When the incorporation of a town is

repealed the care and custody of the
 school lands revert to the State, and the
 school funds shall be transmitted to the
 State Treasurer. School children of an
 unincorporated township, who live with-
 in three miles of a school in an adjoining
 town or plantation, shall be enumerated
 among the school children of the latter
 place, which shall receive from the State
 Treasurer not exceeding \$3 for each such
 scholar. Parents or guardians at their
 own expense may provide school books
 for their children. Among the educa-
 tional measures are the following: An
 amendment to the law prescribing the
 subjects on which teachers shall be ex-
 amined, the amendment requiring on the
 part of the teacher a knowledge of civil
 government, and of the effects of alcohol
 and narcotics on the human system; the
 State Superintendent of schools has been
 given \$1000 for holding annually
 schools for teachers under his super-
 vision; also \$500 out of the school funds
 each year for preparing and distributing
 among the teachers of the common
 schools, outlines, suggestions, directions,
 and other information upon methods of
 teaching. The State Superintendent
 shall also cause to be held public exam-
 inations for teachers.

Gouldsboro was divided to make a
 new town of Winter Harbor, Sullivan to
 make a new town of Sorrento, Cape
 Elizabeth to make the town of South
 Portland. Madison was not divided.
 Woodville, New Sweden and Swan's Is-
 lands have been incorporated as towns.
 Kossuth and Brighton gave up their
 town organization. Carrying Place and
 The Forks became plantations. Parts of
 the towns of Greene and Lewiston have
 been added to the town of Webster.
 City charters for Dexter and South Port-
 land have been granted.

Under the medical registration bill
 not more than two of the board of
 six shall be members of any one school
 of medicine, and the section providing
 that unregistered practitioners could not
 collect their pay was stricken out. The
 State is to pay the incidental and travel-
 ing expenses of the board, and to each
 member \$3 a day when employed, and
 five cents per mile each way. Graduates
 of medical colleges, and practitioners of
 three years' practice in this State, will
 pay a registration fee of \$2, and those
 not so entitled \$10.

A debtor who has received a discharge
 from insolvency may now be compelled
 to answer for any claim which was
 created by fraud or embezzlement of such
 debtor, or by his defalcation as a public
 officer while acting in a fiduciary charac-
 ter. Public notice of a hearing on pro-
 bate of foreign wills shall be made three
 weeks instead of 30 days before the hear-
 ing.

Cities or towns with more than 10,000
 inhabitants may receive State stipend on
 \$1000 appropriated for free public libra-
 ries, instead of on \$500 as formerly.

Adulteration or imitation of maple
 syrup or sugar has been prohibited by
 law. A fine not more than \$100 and not
 less than \$50 is the penalty that has been
 provided for the adulteration of candy,
 or for the sale of brandy, whiskey, rum
 or wine drops.

Mothers are to have joint custody of
 minor children. There is a law com-
 pelling the husband to contribute to the
 support of his wife and children, even
 when separated from them. But a good
 step ahead was taken in the matter of
 dower. The new law gives absolute
 ownership to widow or widower in one-
 third the real estate, excepting will land.

Section 20 of the law relating to regis-
 tration of voters has been made to ap-
 ply to cities of not less than 19,000 in-
 habitants, instead of 25,000 as formerly.

Village improvement societies may
 now be incorporated under the same
 conditions heretofore provided for
 libraries, temperance societies, etc.
 Several banking institutions have been
 granted the right to enter upon addi-
 tional business, that of safety deposit
 companies. Judges of municipal and
 police courts are now, as well as Trial
 Justices, ex-officio Justices of the Peace
 and Quorum. Soldiers and sailors who
 receive State pensions are exempt from
 paying poll taxes. The game of policy is
 now subject to the same prohibition as
 lotteries. Children may now be bound
 as apprentices by their guardians.

Among the multitude of measures
 which consumed a large portion of the
 time in committee and at the sessions of
 both branches, and which finally met
 defeat, may be mentioned the listing
 bill, the constitutional amendment de-
 plying State aid to sectarian schools, the
 granting of municipal suffrage to women,
 the municipal debt limit amendment,
 and the proposition to add more strin-
 gent penalties to the enforcement of the
 liquor law.

Fred Douglass' Will.

The will of the late Frederick Doug-
 lass has been filed with the registrar of
 wills in Washington, by Rosetta Sprague,
 daughter of the deceased. The will is
 dated August 30, 1880. To his wife
 he leaves the estate situated near the
 city of Washington, with all his fur-
 nishings. He bequeaths her his writings,
 books, pictures, paintings, horses, car-
 riages, etc. \$10,000 of United States
 bonds and \$10,000 of money is given his
 daughter Rosetta Sprague, and to his
 sons Lewis, Frederick and Charles
 Douglass the remainder of his property,
 each to receive an equal share, which is
 said to amount to about \$15,000 each.
 The will bears the signatures of two
 witnesses. The laws of the District re-
 quire three, and the validity of the will
 is likely to be questioned.

At a meeting of the directors of the
 Kennebec Steamboat Company, held in
 Gardiner, Wednesday, Mr. Frederick A.
 Jones was elected to the important po-
 sition of General Agent of the company,
 with headquarters in Boston, and will
 assume charge at once. Mr. Jones has
 been in the employ of the company in
 various capacities for several years and
 his experience and efficient service merit
 this promotion. The boats will soon be
 put on, as the ice on the Kennebec is
 weakening every day. The river is clear
 of ice from the Kennebec dam in this
 city, to a point below Hallowell.

The Governor has designated Thurs-
 day, the 25th day of April, as Fast Day.
 All the base ball teams are organizing.

STATE BOARD OF TRADE.

The discussions before this body, at
 their meeting in Portland, last week, can
 but result in good to the interests of the
 State. The consideration of the "Finan-
 cial Problem," by Mr. C. S. Hichborn
 of Augusta, the *Portland Press* says
 "was one of the most interesting and im-
 portant of the day."

Mr. Hichborn spoke of the evils, in-
 consistencies and dangers of our present
 monetary system, and treated exhaustively
 the proposed changes in our currency.
 The fallacies of the silver scheme were
 exposed and the dangers inherent in the
 continuation of the use of the greenback
 and coin certificates made clear. He said
 there existed, under no government, a
 more crazy-quilt financial system than
 ours. In meeting our financial questions,
 Congress has shown generally its own
 utter incapacity, often a total disregard
 of the fundamental principles of finance,
 if not of truth and justice, and always a
 "veil over" the most interesting and im-
 portant of the day. He showed the dan-
 ger attendant upon the attempt to float
 \$40 millions of greenbacks upon a re-
 serve of 100 millions, the decrease of
 "real money," the attacks made upon it
 by the greenbacks and the coin certifi-
 cates, had caused such distress in the re-
 cent past. The greenback, he said, per-
 formed a great service in a day of need,
 but its mission is fulfilled. Its place
 now is in the memorial hall of the nation
 with the musket and the battle flag.

Speaking of silver, he ridiculed the
 idea that existing prices were attribut-
 able to the demonetization of silver. The
 act which it is (falsely) claimed "demonet-
 ized" silver, was passed 22 years ago.
 Our years of greatest prosperity have
 come since then. Silver has been found
 and mined in such enormous quantities
 that it has been impossible to maintain
 its value. It is as futile for this govern-
 ment to attempt to maintain the parity
 of gold and silver as to change the loca-
 tion of the north star. He spoke of the
 impossibility of such a thing as a double
 standard. Somewhere there must be
 the unit and the commercial world had
 fixed that unit as the ounce of gold.
 Against that verdict the voice of your
 statute cries out in vain. He vigorously
 opposed the forcing upon the people of
 50 cent dollars as worth 100 cents.

He opposed the inauguration of State
 bank issues, with all the inconveniences
 and losses inherent in such system, and
 the fact that the State Bank of Maine
 has failed, and the State Bank of New
 Brunswick is in a similar position, and
 the banking system which, in the day
 of trouble aided in establishing the national
 credit, which rooted out irresponsible
 issues, and which gave our people the
 best currency any country ever had. He
 urged that the State Bank of Maine be
 reorganized, and that the bill issued by
 any National Bank in the State of Maine
 passes without question, and at the min-
 imum rate of exchange.

He scored Congress for refusing to
 make the State Bank of Maine a part
 of the national system, and for putting
 a stain upon our credit, as well as
 involving a loss of many millions of dol-
 lars.

He advocated the use of the world gold
 coin, the selling of bonds in suffi-
 cient amount to take up and retire the
 greenbacks and treasury notes of 1890,
 the issuing of bills by banks up to par of
 the bonds, the use of these bills as part
 of the home reserve and the decrease of
 tax on circulation to one quarter of 1 per
 cent.; and incidentally expressed his
 disapproval of the bill issued by any
 National Bank in the State of Maine
 passes without question, and at the min-
 imum rate of exchange.

The annual report of the city assessors
 appears elsewhere, and already
 these gentlemen are on their rounds,
 seeking to establish the valuation of
 property for the present municipal year.
 All of our citizens can greatly aid these
 officials by rendering their cheerful
 assistance in the way of furnishing them
 with their taxable property. It is
 better to give to them instead of hav-
 ing them unearth it.

Detective James J. Donaghy of Phila-
 delphia, left this city for Philadelphia
 on the Pullman, Friday night, having in
 custody Joseph E. Pitts, alias Joseph
 Brown. Pitts was arrested the previous
 Saturday morning at the instigation of
 Philadelphia officers, charged with re-
 ceiving \$2500 of stolen money, and for
 being implicated in the burning of a
 building. Pitts still maintains his inno-
 cence, and refuses to talk.

Chief Engineer Ricker has re-
 organized Cushman Hose Co., No. 1, with
 the following officers for the ensuing year:
 Foreman, J. E. Dinmore; Assistant,
 E. B. Richards; Clerk, H. C. Thibault;
 Steward, Ed. Weston. He has re-
 organized Atlantic Hose, No. 2, with the
 following officers for the coming year:
 Foreman, E. A. Shaw; Assistant,
 D. S. McDavid; Clerk, W. G. Haskell;
 Steward, M. W. Leighton. Both com-
 panies are in excellent condition.

**At the annual meeting of the Augus-
 ta Driving Park Association, the follow-
 ing officers were elected: President, H.
 G. Staples; Secretary, Byron Boyd;
 Treasurer, Dr. M. J. Twichell; Direc-
 tors, Col. Staples, Byron Boyd,
 E. L. Webster, A. S. Church and F. R.
 Wellman. The prospect of business at
 the park during the coming season was
 discussed, and it was decided to make
 the representatives of the park-making
 scheme based on the curiosity of the
 June and August.**

The Grand Division, Sons of Temper-
 ance, will hold its semi-annual session at
 Augusta, April 23, commencing at 10.30
 A. M. As this is the 50th anniversary of
 the organization of this body, it is hoped
 there will be a rousing meeting of the
 order. Hon. Neal Dow has already
 written high officers for New York are
 present if it is possible for him to come. It
 is expected that Ex-Gov. Peabody will
 also be present. As the Grand Division
 was organized in Augusta, it seems the
 doubly proper that our city should give
 the representatives of the good old
 order a grand reception.

The marriage of Miss Julia Antoinette
 Welch, daughter of Col. James W.
 Welch, to Mr. Charles French Perry, oc-
 curred at the elegant and spacious man-
 sion of Col. Welch, on State street, Thurs-
 day evening, in the presence of a brilliant
 assemblage of some sixty people. The
 ceremony was performed by Rev. Albert
 C. White of Pepperell, Mass., a brother-in-
 law of the bride. After the ceremony
 there was a reception and supper, served
 in fine style. An entire room was given
 up to the display of elegant, costly, and
 useful presents. The happy couple left
 for their home at 7 o'clock, and after
 passing a few days they will re-
 turn to their home on Western avenue,
 in this city. Mr. Perry is the accom-
 plished book-keeper at the Insane Hos-
 pital, while Col. Welch is one of our
 bright and beautiful young ladies of the
 capital city.

It so well expresses the thoughts and
 sentiments of so many of our subscribers,
 that we must make an extract from a
 business letter received from Dr. J. O.
 Webster, formerly of Augusta, now of
 San Diego, Cal.:

"We couldn't get along without the
Farmer; it keeps us informed of all the
 Augusta and Maine news, and every
 member of the family is anxious to see it
 as soon as possible."

CITY NEWS.

The churches are at work on prepara-
 tions for Easter.

An attempt is being made to organi-
 ze a base ball team here, with the design
 of joining the league.

They are raising funds to pay the
 debt of \$2200 on the Congregationalist
 church.

A numerously signed petition has
 been circulated to have an ear light half
 way up Winthrop (or jail) hill.

The Augusta municipal court will be
 held on the first and third Mondays of
 each month for the transaction of civil
 business.

Mrs. Cornelia Newman will this ses-
 sion erect a house on the heater piece near
 the Augusta House, at the junction of
 Western avenue and Grove street.

Notice the card elsewhere of Cum-
 ings & Prescott, who have a large
 number of Canadian horses for sale at
 Spencer's stable.

Pine Tree Hose Company has organi-
 zed with the following officers for the
 ensuing year: Foreman, G. H. Harvey;
 Assistant, Frank Norcross; Clerk, Fred
 Norcross; Steward, A. A. Ray.

Our people of incomes amounting to
 \$4000, or more, annually, are sending in
 list of the same to the Collector at
 Portsmouth, N. H. It is estimated that
 some thirty or thirty-five persons in the
 city will pay an income tax.

Harry H. Pierce, who has filled the
 position of book-keeper in the Granite
 National Bank for some time, has gone
 to Boston, where he will enter upon his
 duties as cashier in the Boston &
 Kennebec Steamboat Co.'s office at that
 place.

Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock a fire
 was discovered in the tenement on the
 Bond brook road, owned by B. F. Parrott
 & Co., and occupied by Fred Chamber-
 lain, who drives a team for this firm.
 The building was gutted, and the loss
 will be about \$500.

Mr. Manley and party arrived at
 Gibraltar, Monday morning, where they
 would tarry twelve hours before proceed-
 ing up the Mediterranean sea to the
 beautiful bay of Naples. They were all
 well, and enjoyed the trip immensely.
 Miss Stinson of Hallowell, being the only
 person of the party who was at all offend-
 ed with sea sickness.

The Volunteer Hose Company of
 Cushman Heights has been reorganized
 by Chief Engineer Ricker, with the fol-
 lowing officers for the ensuing year:
 Foreman, Charles Bickford; Assistant,
 Fred Fletcher; Clerk, John White; Stew-
 ard, Danforth Davies. There are 10
 members in this company, and at every
 fire on the Heights they are on the spot
 very soon after the alarm is sounded.

H. G. Staples camp, S. V. of, of this
 city, has decided to celebrate the sixth
 anniversary of the camp, which will oc-
 cur April 8. Invitations have been sent
 to headquarters of the Maine division of
 the Sons of Veterans to attend. Some of
 the large camps through the State will
 be invited to join in the festivities. A grand
 ball and banquet will constitute a part
 of the programme.

The annual notice of the city assessors
 appears elsewhere, and already
 these gentlemen are on their rounds,
 seeking to establish the valuation of
 property for the present municipal year.
 All of our citizens can greatly aid these
 officials by rendering their cheerful
 assistance in the way of furnishing them
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 being implicated in the burning of a
 building. Pitts still maintains his inno-
 cence, and refuses to talk.

Chief Engineer Ricker has re-
 organized Cushman Hose Co., No.

Items of Maine Notes.

The first salmon of the season was taken at the pool in Bangor, Monday.

Some repairs have been made on the court house at Belfast.

The Auburn & Turner electric railroad has been incorporated, with a capital of \$100,000.

J. C. Lamb has been appointed Postmaster at West Troy, vice E. E. McCauslin, resigned.

William E. Morton of Portland, the well known Congress street florist, died last week, of a complication of troubles.

A post office at Penobscot county, fourteen miles from Norcross, and Benj. F. Howe appointed Postmaster.

The body of James Mulligan, who had been missing since Dec. 23, was found on Sunday, in Portland harbor. Literally the sea gave up its dead.

Thomas Gregg, one of the men convicted last September of attempting to blow up a railroad train near Detroit, served out two bars of his cell in Somerset jail, and escaped, Friday night.

Joshua Lunt of Deering died, Wednesday, after a short illness. He was 80 years old. He was born there and had always lived there. His trade was a brimstone moulder.

Among the candidates who passed successfully the examination for cadets at the West Point Military Academy and will enter in June, was W. S. Brown of North Bridgton.

The "Old Men's Home" at North Portland is a great success. The Superintendent is receiving many applications for admission, and has had to turn away some worthy applicants for lack of room.

Louis Corveaux, formerly of Bangor, has recently died in San Francisco, Cal., leaving an estate valued at \$50,000. He is supposed to have a daughter living now in Bangor, and a search is being made for her.

Fairfield Opera House, recently purchased by A. P. Gendall, is undergoing changes. The new management, consisting of Messrs. Gendall, Gendall, and Gendall, is expected to open in the near future.

Judge Webb, at Portland, awarded to Patrick Clancy \$300 damages for personal injuries, claimed from the schooner Gen. Adolphus. Clancy was in the hold of the schooner, and a pile of lumber fell on him, inflicting permanent injuries.

Preparations have commenced at Skowhegan for a big celebration of the Fourth of July. The new election of Mayor of Skowhegan to Madison will be in working order at that time. There will be a race at Fairview Park by the best horses in the State.

Captain York of schooner Charles J. Willard, from Fairview for Portland, reports March 18, off Cape Hatteras, during a heavy northeast gale, that John Smetton of Harpswell, a member of the crew, was washed from the jib boom and drowned. He was twenty-eight years of age, and unmarried.

Rev. Allen Pettigrove's family, formerly residing in St. Albans, moved to Minersville several years ago, and last fall the whole family, 10 in number, was burned in one of those great forest fires. Elder Pettigrove was a preacher of considerable ability and was well known throughout the State.

Wardens Bailey of Bath and Bates of West Bath seized eight nets containing nearly one hundred pounds of bass, at Winooski creek, Wednesday night. Nearly all of the nets seized had meshes of less size than the law allows in open waters. The nets were destroyed by the Warden, and the fish were sold by them, and the receipts of the sale paid into the county.

Daniel Waltz, claimed to be the oldest veteran of the War of the Rebellion, died at Waldoboro, Wednesday. When he enlisted in 1862 for service in the Twentieth Maine, it was necessary to dye his hair and beard to enable him to pass muster. He must have been at least sixty years of age at the time. He also served in the First Maine Sharpshooters.

Honesty Grange of Morrill nearly lost its buildings again by fire, recently. Fire was discovered in the stable, and the alarm given by a small boy. The crew at Mr. Daggett's steam mill were near at hand, and extinguished it with a few pails of water. The building was full of smoke, and the fire had burned entirely through the floor in one of the horse stalls. It is supposed some one carelessly dropped a match or stub of a cigar there.

Jonathan Scott Ellis died at his home in Farmington, Saturday, at the great age of one hundred and one years and eight months. He retained his faculties to a remarkable degree up to his death, which was hastened by an accident a few weeks ago. While preparing a razor to shave himself, he fell on the floor, striking his head. The injury confined him to his bed. It was over eight years since he had required a physician to attend him.

The many friends of Mr. Abizer Jordan were grieved to learn, on Friday last, of his sudden death at Battle Creek, Michigan. Mr. Jordan was born at New Meadows, Brunswick, in 1815, and at the age of 18 years came to the village and learned the trade of a carpenter, and there working at his trade and as contractor till 1862, when he went to Lynn, engaged in agriculture. He leaves a widow and one son, and a brother, Judge Barton Jordan of Brunswick. His remains were brought to his old home for burial in Pine Grove cemetery.

The two insurance cases brought by Jacob A. Turner and John R. Studley, against the Imperial Fire Insurance Company and the Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Company, were, on Saturday, laid against the plaintiffs. The ice-boat at Friendship, owned by Turner & Studley, was demolished by a severe thunder storm in the summer of 1893, the plaintiffs claim by a bolt of lightning. The insurance companies claimed that the wind was alone responsible for the building's destruction. It was one of the most peculiar cases ever tried in the county.

The schooner Anita, built and owned at Machias, was abandoned in a sinking condition in latitude 35.50, longitude 71.20. The Anita left Philadelphia March 23, for Havana, coal laden. Capt. Sawyer, a mate and five men composed the crew. On the evening of the 27th, in latitude 36, longitude 70, a strong gale from the W. S. W. sprang up, and the sea swept over the deeply laden craft, almost swamping her. She held her own gallantly, but the great weight of water pounding on her deck, and the sea sprang aloft. All night long the crew were kept at the pumps in an endeavor to free the ship, but the water gained continually. On the morning of the 28th a huge sea boarded the schooner forward and came rushing aft, sweeping all before it, and swept overboard in the twinkling of an eye. One of them, Albert Schultz, managed to grasp a rope and, clutching back on board by his comrades on deck, the other two were lost, as the vessel was swept over before the blast. The others were rescued and brought to New York.

At the city election in Calais, Monday Hon. George A. Murchie, Republican, was re-elected to a third term, with a solid Republican board of aldermen.

GRANGE NEWS AND NOTES.

Saco Grange is taking a boom, having just initiated a class of eleven, first-class farmers and their wives, and re-initiated eight, and more applications in, and still more to follow. The work was performed in an impressive manner, with but an occasional glance at the ritual. The hall was decorated with flowers and flowers. The chaplain, J. R. Deering, who is over 80 years of age, is as faithful and prompt as any young man in the Grange, performing his part in an able manner. This revival is the result of earnest, personal work, calling from house to house. Patrons, go on and do likewise.

Garland Grange received seventeen candidates into membership at a special meeting on a recent evening.

In spite of a small membership and poor traveling Seven Star Grange, Troy, still continues to hold interesting meetings. This Grange is in good condition financially, and what members it has are substantial ones. Members of other Granges wishing to visit us may be sure of a cordial reception. We meet once a week at 1 P. M., Saturday.

Oxford county Pomona has talked up the question of judging stock at the agricultural fairs, and at the large meeting held Tuesday, at South Paris, Sec'y G. M. Twitchell, of the Maine State Society, spoke in behalf of systematic work, so regulated that every exhibitor shall have the evidence in detail of the record of the experts upon his stock or product.

The morning session was taken up in the discussion of the question, fruit and butter being used as object lessons. In the afternoon the scale of points for animals was taken up and discussed at length, a horse furnishing the illustration needed. It is the intention of this Pomona to push this question until the system is adopted by the several agricultural societies in the county. This is good work—work leading directly to tangible results.

Sagadahoc Grange, Bowdoin, will hold an all day's session, Saturday, at this week, when County Deputy Mallett will be present, to inspect in detail and to address the members upon the live issues of the hour.

Sebastico Grange, Newport, is made up largely of the young element, and such a body as this may thoroughly enjoy himself with bright, intelligent, energetic young persons, banded together for mutual helplessness. Holding closely to the fundamental purpose of the order, these weekly gatherings may be made of lasting benefit to every member. We rejoice in the evidences of continued prosperity.

Etna Grange is officered by the sisters, save three, Ceres, Pomona and Flora, where they placed the best looking broom. This is equivalent to saying that this Grange is well officered, and so it is. The Master is thoroughly devoted to Grange work for the helping of the members, and her enthusiasm and faith in the order must bear fruit. Situated in a purely agricultural section, this Grange has within itself the capabilities of grand results for each and every member, and also for the town, and in reaching after these the greatest good will come to the individual patrons.

Mingling so frequently with members of the order in every season, the fact of the influence and devotion of a few leading spirits in each branch of a great Grange organization, grows continually. While there are those claiming the honors and doing nothing, others are quietly bearing the burdens, doing the detailed work with pleasure, and getting their full measure of satisfaction out of the fact that year by year the influence of fraternal obligations is spreading among the members. But for these few loyal patrons, many a Grange would cease to exist. They are the life and inspiration, yet their labors are not recognized. When in future years the history of the Grange is written, the influence of these unselfish lives will be fully recognized.

EDITOR'S TABLE.

The most important article of the year to electricians is that contained in *The Century* magazine, which makes its appearance last Saturday. The article is an authoritative account of the latest electrical inventions and discoveries of Nikola Tesla, written by T. C. Martin, editor of the *Electrical Engineer*. The new oscillator, combining the engine and the electric motor in one inseparable mechanism of highest economy, is here described for the first time. Besides these interesting scientific articles, the history of Napoleon is continued, and the usual variety.

Children will find the usual diversity in April St. Nicholas, with its sprightly tales, amusing verses, and articles of an instructive nature. Gustav Kobbé has a breezy description of "Along Newfound," at the Labrador, and he gives a picture of life in this desolate region. The picture is illustrated from photographs by M. J. Burns, the marine artist. Virginia Woodward Cloud tells of a quaint tale of revolutionary adventure, in "The Black Duck," showing how a young girl bore secret despatches through the enemy's ranks to General Washington. Prof. Brander Matthews has another article in his series of sketches, "Along Newfound," at the Labrador, which is a picture of life in this desolate region. The picture is illustrated from photographs by M. J. Burns, the marine artist.

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WEAK NERVES EPIDEMIC.

Weak Nerves Will Surely Break You Down.

Nerves Are the Very Foundation of Strength and Endurance.

If Your Nerves are Weak, Lose no Time in Getting Them Strong.

You are growing older every day, and if you do not wish the unpropitious years as they roll on their relentless way, to rob you of your hopes and joys, your pleasures, your ambitions, your very strength and energies, keep your nerves strong and vigorous.

It is the nerves which soonest wear out. You thoughtlessly use them up in work, pleasure or dissipation, and suddenly wake to find yourself broken-down—that only your body remains, bereft of strength, energy and power, a mere wreck of what you were and with only dreary, nervous, pain, weakness, and discontent your future portion. Then you realize the immeasurable depth of bitterness in Longfellow's lines:

"Oh, sudden thrills of fire and frost! The world is bright while ye remain, And dark and dreary when ye part."

Health, hope, happiness, everything is dependent upon strong and vigorous nerves. It is weak nerves which give to the young, fits, convulsions, hysteria, St. Vitus' dance, and the myriad nervous affections of youth. It is weak nerves which make women constantly tired, irritable, nervous, dispirited, dragged out and miserable. It is weak nerves which conquer men in their struggle for mastery in the world, which render them nerveless, strengthless, powerless, with dull-feeling head, shaking, shattered and unsteady nerves, without appetite or good digestion, enfeebled from sleepless nights and wretched and discouraged from trying days. It is weak nerves which make a curse instead of a blessing—a body a casket from which every power and energy has fled, leaving only weakness, despair and utter weariness.

If there is any advice, which above another should sink into the heart, it is the admonition to keep your nerves strong. Hence, the words of Mrs. Eliza E. Clements, of 126 Bright St., Indianapolis, Ind., should have weight with everyone.

"I was afflicted for six years with nervous debility. I could not sleep nights, and I was in a terrible condition. I had heart trouble, and it beat so hard I thought I should die. I was in a constant misery and could do no work."

"I had heard much talk about the wonders of Dr. Greene's Nervura blood and nerve remedy, and now made up my mind to take it. I had given myself up for lost, but began to improve immediately under the use of this marvelous medicine."



MRS. ELIZA E. CLEMENTS.

"It has made me sound and well. I can work all day and not get tired. My heart disease is entirely cured, and my nerves are strong and under perfect control."

"I feel it my duty to tell suffering humanity what Dr. Greene's Nervura blood and nerve remedy has done for me, and what it will surely do for them. I am thankful that Dr. Greene has given such a valuable medicine to a suffering world."

If you would be well and strong, with vigorous nerves full of vim and energy of youth, use Dr. Greene's Nervura blood and nerve remedy. At this season of the year you should take it, by all means, as it is the best spring tonic and invigorant, as you can possibly use.

It is not a patent medicine, but the prescription of the most successful living specialist in curing nervous and chronic diseases, Dr. Greene, of 34 Temple Place, Boston, Mass. He has the largest practice in the world, and his clinical discovery is the result of his vast experience. The great reputation of Dr. Greene is a guarantee that this medicine will cure, and the fact that he can be consulted by anyone at any time free of charge, personally or by letter, gives absolute assurance of the beneficial action of this wonderful medicine.

Associated Dairying.

By request, Sec'y B. Walker McKee addressed the farmers of New Castle, Damariscotta and adjoining towns, at Lincoln Hall, Mar. 29th, on the subject of associated dairying. The Lincoln county member of the Board of Agriculture, J. W. Winslow, of Nobelesboro, presided, and B. F. Woodbridge of New Castle acted as scribe. A large audience of interested farmers listened to the remarks of Mr. McKee, and as a result, W. A. Smith and Chas. F. Erskine, New Castle; J. J. Morrill, Damariscotta; A. B. Haggett, Edgecomb; Eben Chaney, Alna; Ira Oliver, Nobelesboro; and Eldon Oliver, Bristol, were appointed solicitors for cows and calves. A representative of the A. L. & E. F. Goss Co., Lewiston, was present, to show the dairy fixtures for sale by this company, as per advertisement in the *Maine Farmer*. A meeting is to be held at New Castle, April 13th, at two o'clock P. M., to hear reports from the men appointed to get pledges of cows and money, and take further action in regard to building the factory, etc. The prospect is that a factory will be started in the near future.

The Pittston & Whitefield Mutual Fire Insurance Company has recently been organized in Pittston, with the following officers: President, C. C. Libby, East Pittston; Secretary, F. H. Mooers, Pittston; Treasurer, R. A. Marston, East Pittston; Directors, J. H. Doyle, Whitefield; C. C. Libby, C. R. Gariotson, Whitefield; F. H. Mooers, Amos Irton, Whitefield; F. M. Little, East Pittston; John Kealy, Whitefield; B. B. Gould, Pittston; E. A. Lapham, Pittston. The company will take risks only in Pittston and Whitefield, mostly on farm property. They now have nearly \$50,000 worth of property pledged for insurance, and will commence issuing policies in a few days.

The ice has left Ellsworth bay.

For the Maine Farmer.

EARLY TIMES ON THE KENNEBEC.

More Especially Vassalboro.

BY E. B. GETCHELL.

The old "Snow tavern" at Getchell's Corner, in Vassalboro, is still standing, and the traveler who tarries at that fair old inn of New England villages, can yet find the cleanest of beds and abundant and well cooked food at this once famous hostelry. Fifty years ago, the "Corner" was the great stage centre of the line running from Bangor to Augusta, and numerous other places down the river.

I well remember the big stable in the rear of the tavern where hundreds of post horses were stalled, a relay of which were kept in harness day and night, to relieve the tired nags on the next incoming stage. Commercially, Getchell's Corner is far behind the rank it once held in the importance of trade and manufacturing—where industry hummed and saw-mills gave life and vigor throughout the village, now a quiet realm which perhaps causes the old dweller to ponder and wonder why these things are and what has brought about this paltry on business.

I have often heard it said that the great tannery owned by Jacob Southwick was the largest one in the United States; this statement is probably correct. The spot where it stood is now covered by a wilderness of wild alders, and the acres of red tan spread on the plain above the hundreds of leather vats was years and years ago swept away by the resistless waters of the Kennebec when the spring freshets came on. Mr. Hiram Fish also owned a large tannery and several currying shops where he gave employment to a score or more of workmen. A hatter's shop, a bank and a harness manufactory were among the various institutions which largely contributed to the general prosperity of the place.

Samuel Turner and his brother John made and repaired carriages, and Mr. Dunham, Tarbel, Estes, and many other enterprising citizens, whose names I cannot now remember, did an extensive business in the manufacturing of boots and shoes. The most important industry was that of the making of thousands of coats annually, which gave employment to hundreds of women throughout the town. Uncle Sam. Gibson was the live man of that place and at that time, and his big contracts with Boston clothing men to rush the shoddy garments along, was the wonder of all.

My old uncle, Edward Storr, did the repairing of harnesses for the great stage company for more than fifty years. There used to be a miserable old vagrant goat hanging around the corner, and he seemed to be eternally craving for something to eat—it didn't make any odds to him what it was; if he couldn't grab and get off with a salt cod hanging up in the molasses room in the rear of Thomas Carleton's grocery store, he would sneak over to Uncle Storr's shop and pull the old straw out of horse collars, and lunch on that. He bothered uncle most grievously at times with his infernal forage incursions, and one day while the old gentleman was at dinner this brute beast stuck his head through an open window and "collared" a big bunch of bristles, went out behind Mr. Hanson's blacksmith shop and ate them all up. For the next two hours he hurled himself with wild waste through the streets, blaring loudly and fearfully the while. The bristles finally worked out through his pelt and he recovered; he continued to be wayward, however, and unwittingly suicided by greedily swallowing a string of small and rusty shell bells, which he ripped from the shafts of an old pung stored in Mr. Fossett's woodshed.

Three immense grocery stores did a rushing business, the largest of which, I think, was Mr. Carleton's. Thomas Frye was postmaster many years; in connection with the office, he kept a big stock of patent medicines and was the apothecary of the village. He was a quiet and kind old man; he died many years ago. The picture of his house is before me as I write; it was a fine old mansion of the Elizabethan style, surrounded by lofty shade trees, lilac bushes and other flowering shrubbery, which went into the halo business when the matchless May days were on. Of all the flowers that bloom give me the lilac. There is only one out to this sweetest of blossoms, and that is, they soon fade away.

Our house was out in the back neighborhood two miles from the "Corner" and every Friday, unless the weather was cold and stormy, I would walk out to the post office and get father's paper, the *Kennebec Journal*, and *The Olive Branch*, a family story paper, which my sister Anna was a subscriber to for many years. The *Journal* at that time was owned by Severance and Dorr, I think. That was long before Mr. Blaine and the late Mr. Stevens bought out and directed the affairs of the loyal old paper.

There is, or was two years ago, a lawyer whose office was on Court street, Boston. He went to the old yellow school house where I did; he was a mischievous and a rascally boy, but smart and quick to learn. One day in school he wrote a ridiculous and mixed up parody on "Mary and the Lamb." Ezekiel Small, the schoolmaster, "got out" to "Nat's" ally work and made him go out and line himself up on the floor and read his dressing literary bosh to the whole school. I never forgot the lines of his sweet production. Here it is with its stab at the master who was silly on a certain Mary, one of his scholars:

"Mary had a little lamb, It was scoldish the rule, To let this simple motto head—Gut up and go to school."

It made the children laugh an' play, Till Mary did appear, An' then the master followed her, When the lam got on his ear."

The decay of business at the "Corner" did not huddle any hardships on the residents, and the shadow of want never fell within its borders. The last time I was there everything was prosperous, and contentment and good fortune seemed to abide at the homes of all. I have travelled somewhat extensively through New England and a portion of the South, and I most honestly admit that for general thrift and picturesque beauty, that little Kennebec village ranks A, No. 1. My ancestors have been closely associated with the people and the welfare of Vassalboro for many generations, and anything touching its interests I always note with absorbing attention.

Hampton, Va.

For the Maine Farmer.

THE WALTER A. WOOD COMPANY.

It has become generally known that the Walter A. Wood Harvester Company of St. Paul, Minn., has gone into the hands of receivers. This action was rendered necessary because of the hasty and ungenerous action of one small creditor (a bank) in Chicago. This creditor, as we are informed by the Directors of the St. Paul Company, disregarding an agreement not to press its claim until negotiations then pending to finance the company were concluded, entered judgment against the company, without notice, and levied upon its Chicago warehouse. The act precipitated a general alarm, and before the matter could be explained, various other attachments were issued, thereby rendering a receivership necessary, in order to protect the company's property.

It has come to the attention of the undersigned that efforts are being made by some of our competitors to make it appear that the receivership above mentioned applies to the Walter A. Wood Mowing & Reaping Machine Company of Hoosick Falls, N. Y. In spreading this false report, advantage has been taken of the fact that the name of our company is similar to that of the St. Paul Company. We desire to impress upon the trade and the general public the fact that the Walter A. Wood Harvester Company of St. Paul, is a distinct and separate corporation from the Walter A. Wood Mowing & Reaping Machine Company of Hoosick Falls, N. Y., and that the receivership of the St. Paul corporation has nothing whatever to do with our company, or its business. The Walter A. Wood Mowing & Reaping Machine Company is in no way directly affected by the embarrassment of the Harvester Company of St. Paul. And we believe that every right minded person will agree with us that any attempt to injure the trade or credit of a great and successful business, by such a despicable method as falsely representing it to be involved in the misfortune of an entirely distinct and independent company, merits the severest condemnation.

The business of the Walter A. Wood Mowing & Reaping Machine Company is progressing, as usual, and the company issues this statement in order that the situation may be understood, and to dispose, once for all, of such false reports as may have been instituted by our competitors to injure the reputation of this company. In this connection, it may properly be said that the prospect for the season of 1895 is very flattering. We have the largest orders from our foreign trade that we have ever had in the history of the business, and there never was a time when we were turning out a finer and more complete line of machines than to-day.

The business of the Walter A. Wood Mowing & Reaping Machine Company is an old and established one. During more than forty years past it has preserved its early acquired reputation in the trade all over the world. That reputation always has been, and still is, second to none; and our friends and customers may have the most absolute assurance that nothing has occurred which in any way whatever will tend to diminish it. WALTER A. WOOD CO.

Reported for the Maine Farmer.

HANCOCK COUNTY POMONA.

Address of welcome by Estella M. Perkins of Vassalboro, March 25d, 1895. Worthy Master, Fellow Patrons: In behalf of Vassalboro Grange I extend to you a cordial greeting. It is with pleasure we welcome you here to-day. And while we express our satisfaction at being able to look into your faces, we can but hope that the benefit derived from this day's intercourse may be mutual, and we feel that this will be the case, for we know that no effort put forth for the right is lost. The meeting together that has for its object the uplifting of mankind is never in vain. Whatever society produces pure, honest and well directed thought in the young is a blessing to its individual members, the organization and the world at large. This, we believe, to be within the power of the Grange.

In this, the nineteenth century of progression, we must think, we must study, and we must labor. We must keep abreast the times. We must study because:

"Knowledge lifts us near to God, And makes us pure and true, As sunshine lifts the rainbow From out the sleeping dew."

Bacon said: "Read, not to contradict and confute, nor to believe and take for granted, nor to find fault and discourse, but to weigh and consider." We must labor because all honest toil adds to the dignity of man. It is true that God cursed the earth, but by the blessing of labor man is to triumph over the curse. When the Divine man toiled at the carpenter's bench he dignified, sanctified labor for all time.

"Work for some good, be it ever so slowly, Cherish some flower, be it ever so lowly, Labor, all labor, is noble and holy, Let thy great deeds be thy prayer to thy God."

And having done all this, let us be content to do what we can, and not to presume to fret because it's little."

Whether on the farm, or at the anvil, in the pulpit, or behind the counter, in the school room or the home, wherever we may be let us do each day's work as it presents itself; believing that He who gives seed time and harvest will bless our efforts for our good and that of those with whom we associate.

And again we bid you welcome and hope that as the years roll by we may enjoy many like occasions.

Personal.

If any one who has been benefited by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills will write to the Maine Farmer office, Augusta, they will receive information that will be of much value and interest to them.

Patents have been granted to George A. Hall of Deering for a cutter-bar for mowing machines; Edwin E. Brown of Portland for a check-reel.

A Life Lengthener

must possess two important elements—*dis-ease destroying and body building*. This happy combination is found in the Food-Medicine,

Angier's Petrolum Emulsion

which, on account of its healing and reconstructive powers, is a veritable life lengthener. Throat and lung troubles and all wasting diseases in children and adults are benefited by it. Physicians prefer Petrolum to cod liver oil, because it is pleasant to take and does not upset the most delicate stomach, while it has medicinal properties the fish oil does not possess, and it *costs less*.

50 cts. and \$1.00.

For a limited time we are giving away our books, "Health" and "Beauty." Send address, with stamp.

ANGIER CHEMICAL CO., Boston.

THE BLANCHARD MOLD.

One of the most popular molds on the market. Simple, durable, cheap and practical.

Three sizes: One-half pound, one pound and two pound.

Just the right size for our</

